

## THE DRAMA.

MR. JEFFERSON IN "OUR AMERICAN COUSIN."

"Our American Cousin" was revived last evening at the Olympic Theater, and was played with spirit before a very large audience, and was greeted with its customary tribute of popular applause. Whatever criticism may say against the piece—and it can say a good deal, with entire justice—"Our American Cousin" is a favorite play with the multitude. Its half sentimental, half melodramatic story appeals to sympathy, while its central character—the magnanimous Yankee, whose outside is rough but whose heart is noble, who does justice to an injured woman, and capiously chaffs the British aristocracy—is a particularly pleasing personage to many American minds. The general purity of the incidents and of the dialogue, and the exaggerations of character, seem to pass unnoticed, or, if noticed, are generally tolerated for the sake of the conqueror hero.

"Dundreary," too, is not without his admirers, and Mr. Stoddart's performance has been well made the theme of much admiration and elaborate essays. An English essayist, Mrs. Sala, in—if we remember rightly his "Breakfast in Bed," has, however, made a vigorous onslaught upon the latter character, as also the piece itself, which is well worthy the attention of critical students of the drama. But it would be a present waste of words to dwell critically upon the defects of a play that has so thoroughly run the gauntlet of criticism. Our present taste, like that of America, has been educated by the theater, and to that, Mr. Jefferson in "Our American Cousin" manifested an even that winning humor, delicate sentiment, and delightful precision of art, which have endeared him to this community and have placed him among the foremost comedians of his time. To our mind, the great charm of his personation of *Avg Trenchard* is the delicious purity of his manner with which he invests the character. The quality of true malice is prominently brought forward, so that the A&A's self-sacrifice and the secret act of a bold-minded man, and not the phenomenal gaiety of a vulgar buffoon. In the celebrated scene with Mary Meredith, where the will is burned, Mr. Jefferson quite took captive the hearts of his hearers by his perfectly natural expression of the strange and pure tenderness of an unctuous man. Needless is it to say that in the comic dialogue he was irresistibly humorous. His entire personation is more highly polished and more elaborately worked out than that of the art is well concealed and the whole effect is admirable.

The opening of act second Elizabeth finds herself in the teeth of Spain's Ambassador, and declares that the outbreak has prolonged her life ten years. Ristori makes you feel the Queen's intense enjoyment of vivification, you realize that contradiction is her especial mania in the wilderness. Then follows the fine scene between Elizabeth and Essex. Valence all save Ristori was Ristori when, with the flippancy of girlhood, she asks Essex whether he prefers her hair-dresser "all Ingles, oll' French, o' all' Italian." A moment later and the delicate personality of one well skilled in female artifice is written on her face as she demands the cause of Essex's jealousy. There is a world of significance in the manner in which Ristori says "Dar'st thou then love thy Queen?" and her alternations between the regal coquetry and woman passion with which she tortures her lover are artistic in the extreme. Her pride satisfied that Essex no longer loves the wife of Ristori, Ristori gives him the talismanic ring with charming grace, and the art with which she manages that command for his departure shall be the signal for the most daring expression of his love, is admirable. Essex retires, and Elizabeth again launches forth her "Per Die" that Carlyle could hear it, would chuckle over with delight and write a mighty thesis upon.

In quick successive steps the interest of the play runs up.

At the opening of act second Elizabeth finds herself in

the teeth of Spain's Ambassador, and declares that the

outbreak has prolonged her life ten years. Ristori makes you

feel the Queen's intense enjoyment of vivification,

you realize that contradiction is her especial mania in the

wilderness. Then follows the fine scene between

Elizabeth and Essex. Valence all save Ristori was Ristori

when, with the flippancy of girlhood, she asks Essex whether

he prefers her hair-dresser "all Ingles, oll' French, o' all' Italian."

A moment later and the delicate personality of one well

skilled in female artifice is written on her face as she demands

the cause of Essex's jealousy.

There is a world of significance in the manner in which

Ristori says "Dar'st thou then love thy Queen?"

and her alternations between the regal coquetry and

woman passion with which she tortures her lover are artistic

in the extreme. Her pride satisfied that Essex no longer

loves the wife of Ristori, Ristori gives him the talismanic

ring with charming grace, and the art with which she manages

that command for his departure shall be the signal for the

most daring expression of his love, is admirable.

Essex retires, and Elizabeth again launches forth her "

Per Die" that Carlyle could hear it, would chuckle over with

delight and write a mighty thesis upon.

It will be performed until further notice.

MR. AND MRS. HOWARD PAUL.

An entertainment which has been widely and most cordially received in England, is now nightly given at Irving Hall, where Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul have established their pleasant drawing-room. They have arrived here, indeed, at somewhat inauspicious time—in view of the powerful rival attractions that are leading captive the pleasure-seekers of the town. Yet there is room for all sorts of novelties in this vast city, and each will find an audience.

To meet two clever and accomplished persons, who conduct an entertainment without "sticks" or other disagreeable accessories, is to enjoy a rare and a real pleasure. That pleasure we enjoyed, in common with a large audience, on Tuesday evening, at Irving Hall, which is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties, in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture, the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers, is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,

the bust of Washington, the flowers—all make up a delicious

little picture, which is presently animated in a delightful

manner, by the songs and characterizations of Mr. and

Mrs. Howard Paul. A sort of fire, for two performers,

is always bright and cheerful place, never wore a cosier aspect, nor was it ever more comfortable. It is a place where a comfortable breakfast-parties, or dressing-parties,

in this the performance proceeds.

The green drapery, the white curtains, the light furniture,